Honorable Director Jeff Koenings:

My name is Patrick Kelly and I am a Customer Service Specialist 2 with the agency's Fish Program in Olympia. I've had a lot of great experiences during my 12 years with the agency and hope that there are many more great years ahead.

I'm an avid angler and I really enjoy assisting folks with our fishing rules. It's also great working with the public at various boat shows, sportsmen's shows and at the kids' fishing events around the state where we get to help our citizens and visitors discover all of the amazing outdoor opportunities that exist in Washington State.

It has been a real learning process these past years and that knowledge has helped me in my job, but last week I was able to experience another great function of the agency, so I must get to the real reason that I am sending you this note.

This past week I had a great opportunity to work with James Chandler and Monique Fredricks of the agency's Outreach and Education Program, and I must say that I was very honored and impressed to watch their team in action.

They managed to hold the attention of a group of 4th graders as they taught the group about the life cycle of salmon. They also included a lesson called the Web of Life, which teaches the kids about the importance of all the different species and how they all interrelate in the natural world.

I'm sure that they made a huge impression on the lives of those kids, and the experience really opened my eyes to the many great things that the agency is doing. I went away from the day feeling prouder than ever about our agency and the work that our employees do every day.

Thanks for listening,

Patrick Kelly

Customer Service Spec. 2

Patrick Kelly

Fish Program